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Former school will welcome students again **2**



Central Avenue Bridge to be completed in the fall **3**

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SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

The Fort Erie Friendship Festival offered a long list of activities, vendors, rides and entertainment on the weekend. For the full story see page 4.



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Former Rose Seaton property to reopen as Montessori-style preschool

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

The former Rose Seaton Public School property, which has stood empty since the building closed in June 2013, is buzzing with activity again.

Two Chinese-based corporations, Beijing Boyuan Education and the 91 Brothers Education Enterprises Ltd., have leased the Enerick Avenue property from the Niagara Peninsula Housing Corporation (NPHC) and plan to

breathe new life into the building by operating the facility as a Montessori-style preschool for overseas students.

Representatives responsible for the project, and members of Town staff toured the site last Thursday to view the changes inside the re-purposed school.

Yajia Wang, project manager, said Niagara Falls School, named after the tourist destination, will have about 20 to 30 students to start.

The name of the school was selected, Wang said,

because Niagara Falls, both the city and the water feature, is well known in China.

Although the first day of school has yet to be determined, Wang said the goal is to see the school grow to enroll 100 students and include after-school programs such as dance, music lessons, sports, martial arts, and pottery art as well as summer camps.

Jeff Andrews, director of corporate affairs, said the NPHC purchased the property about one year ago with

the intention of redeveloping it into living space.

As part of the \$11 million renovation project, Andrews said 13 apartment suites have been constructed on the second floor of the building where Chinese families will live while their children attend classes on the first floor.

Andrews said Beijing Boyuan Education and the 91 Brothers approached NPHC to inquire whether or not the building could be used as both a residence and a school.

"The school was already zoned to handle both functions and it all fell into place," Andrews said.

"Initially, they will be bringing about 20 to 30 families over from China," he added.

Plans also call for the development of 48 additional two and three-bedroom units to be constructed at the back of the school where the playground currently stands. A new entrance from Phipps Street will also be added at the back of the school to

accommodate extra traffic. Wang said the school will employ its own teachers from China, but a local principal and a few English teachers will be hired.

According to Wang, Fort Erie was the perfect place to open the school.

"We want children to experience real life in different cultures. We looked at many places and selected Fort Erie. It is a very beautiful place."

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SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

The former Rose Seaton Public School property will be re-purposed into a Montessori-style preschool and living space, called Niagara Falls School, for overseas students. Last Thursday, Chinese investors and educators visited the site with Town of Fort Erie staff. Pictured in this photo, from left, are project director Rebecca Wang, Niagara Peninsula Housing Corp. director of affairs Jeff Andrews, the Town's director of community and development services, Rick Brady, project manager Yajia Wang and project director Wei Hao.



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Woman walks train tracks to enter U.S. illegally

A woman caught walking across the train tracks on the Whirlpool Bridge has pleaded guilty in a Buffalo, N.Y., courtroom to attempting to enter the U.S. illegally.

Marta Sawicka, 35, a Canadian resident, was sentenced to time served after she was convicted of attempting to enter the U.S. at a time or place other than as designated by immigration officers.

According to assistant U.S. Attorney Aaron Mango, Sawicka walked across the upper level of the bridge at about 2:30 a.m. on July 18.

The upper level is designated solely for railroad traffic and is clearly marked with signs as a no trespassing area.

The defendant was spotted by a border patrol officer and

arrested. Sawicka was fingerprinted, which revealed her prior immigration history.

In February 2016, she attempted to enter the U.S. in Vermont but was stopped by Customs and Border Protection officers.

At that time, she was banned from entering the U.S. for five years.

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Friendship Festival draws families to Fort Erie

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

Debra Drinkle and her husband Mark have been coming to the Friendship Festival for years, and this summer is no different.

They both said they couldn't wait to bring their grandchildren to the festival Friday afternoon.

With plenty of food trucks, arts and craft vendors, and activities, there was something for everyone in the

family, Debra said.

"I like it so far. This year, the festival has much better midway rides," the Fort Erie resident added.

The biggest change this year was the festival's new dates. Traditionally held

on the Canada Day holiday weekend, the festival moved to July 21 to 24. The change didn't bother Drinkle. She said her family preferred the new dates.

"There's always so much going on during the Canada Day weekend that it just feels like there's so much to do that there isn't enough time to spend at the festival."

Mark Drinkle agreed, and said, "I feel like changing the festival's dates lengthen the summer. There wouldn't have been anything else going on this weekend, so this is nice."

Local artist Ben Featherstone said the absence of the annual festival was felt during the first week of July.

"It's been a very positive feeling, though, and I think

the change gave the much-anticipated festival some distance from Ridge Fest. It also gives people something to do," he said.

Featherstone has attended the festival for a number of years, but this weekend was the first time he came as a vendor to sell his paintings and superhero ornaments made from felt.

He joined more than 40 vendors offering a variety of jewellery, crafts, artwork, face painting, air brush tattoos and baked goods in the circle at Mather Arch.

"I wanted to be here because it's a great opportunity to participate in a community event. (Festival organizer Flo Odding) mentioned to me that space was available and I wanted to do it," he said.

Kristen Samuels, of Fort Erie, attended the festival for the first time with her children on Friday and said it was "a lot of fun."

"I saw ads everywhere and I read about it online. I thought it would be great for the kids," she said.

The event, which kicked off Thursday night with a special preview and concluded Sunday afternoon, featured rides, displays, cheerleading demonstrations, live music, a car show hosted by the Niagara British Car Club, a talent competition, superheroes, magic shows and a chance to get up close with animals from the Reptile Kingdom along the waterfront on the Niagara Parkway.

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Friendship Festival puts on a happy face



Bruce Kupferschmidt paints seven-year-old Hannah Vaccaro's face at the Fort Erie Friendship Festival Friday.

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The
Fort Erie Times

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Point of View

Pokemon Go is a unique game that gets kids active

Pokemon are everywhere, thanks to a new app called Pokemon Go. The game, released by Niantec, had reached the status of cultural phenomenon in just over a week, well before it was even officially released in Canada. It's unclear how many Canadians were playing the game before its official Canadian release as websites around the Internet were happy to give us access to the game even if the developers weren't ready for it. It was so popular that Niantec's servers crashed an hour after the game's official release.

Pokemon Go is fun. It's getting people outside. It has its detractors, like anything but the positives outweigh the negatives.

Fans of the original Pokemon games will like it, as will fans of the newer games. It's a game that brings people together, opens up conversations, even if it is "Hey, are you playing Pokemon, too?"

It's more than just a game that gets people off the couch. Video games are a social connector, regardless of any dated stereotypes that might still exist about the lonely basement dwelling gamer, an unfair characterization of those who simply enjoy video games over sports or other outdoor activities.

Games of every type develop social skills as well as critical and strategic thinking skills and offer the same sort of cognitive strengthening that puzzles and word problems can. Being goal oriented as well as requiring patience and development, Pokemon Go builds on skills we all use in a mainstream and accessible way.

Some may think it's childish, but the demographics don't lie. With almost 10 million daily active users, Pokemon Go is not played by just children; adults have been getting in on the fun, too.

Like Pokemon, the longest lasting video games are ones that can be played together, allow people to share and co-play in the same space. Video games are as interactive as any games; just take the uptick in board, card, and role playing

games as well. These all mostly, require groups of friends to get together in a real or digital space.

Pokemon Go's premise takes the existing game and makes us explore our own neighbourhood through GPS technology. As our parents always say, "fresh air is good for you."

One of the game's features, eggs, allow the players to incubate and hatch their eggs by walking either two, five, or ten kilometers. It's necessary to walk this distance for your egg to hatch—driving doesn't count—and when it does hatch you're rewarded with a Pokemon. The higher distance eggs often reward rare Pokemon that can't be caught in the wild around your neighbourhood.

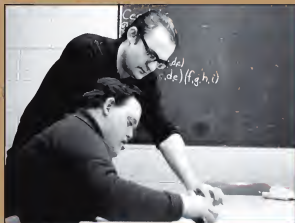
Small businesses have even benefitted from the phenomenon. The game has created "Pokestops" from local landmarks; sometimes stores, churches, government buildings. Anyone who plays the game can place a "lure" on one of these stops that attract the rarer creatures in the game, and some savvy small-business owners have purchased lures (at the cost of about \$1.50) and even given discounts to Pokemon players on coffees, drinks or other local delights.

There are more benefits to escapist games like Pokemon Go, and as the game develops there will likely be more unique things to come. It's always best to be cautious with exploratory games.

The game warns you on it's loading screen, "Stay aware of your surroundings." Watch where you're walking, avoid private property and areas that seem unsafe.

In Niagara there's been instances of Pokestops underneath bridges which have had to be reported and removed for safety. Play with a friend or in groups instead of playing alone if you feel unsafe. Have fun, but always keep safety top of mind, it's more important than catching them all.

Do you remember?



Our thanks to Marguerite Hamratty who called in about last week's photo of her son, Benjamin "Benny" Miller. This photo would have been taken in the 1960s and shows Benny (seated) in a classroom with a man named Robert. The photo was taken at the then Peace Bridge Association for Retarded Children which is now known as Community Living, located on Industrial Drive in Fort Erie. This week's photo has two clues - Randy Farnan is identified in the background and the year was 1981. If you know who the girl is eating the candy apple, please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum at 905-894-5322 or e-mail us at museum@forterie.ca

Comment

Ospreys are beautiful birds that are smaller than a bald eagle

I remember the late Bill Kieffer of Ridgeway spinning in to tell me about the ospreys he had seen in Florida.

He had stayed at Fort Meyers Beach and made the trip across the causeway to Sanibel Island.

He said he went to "Ding" park. Of course, I knew where he went - to "Ding Darling" Nature Preserve. This is the home

of alligators and birds.

Several tall posts have been set up along the Gulf side road. Each had a platform on it for nesting ospreys. Bill saw lots of them.

This beautiful fish eating bird is smaller than the Bald eagle.

A day later the late Al Valvo of Fort Erie called me. He too had just returned from Florida's west coast.



When Nature Calls

He said, "Earl, I saw all kinds of ospreys." Again I say, they are beautiful graceful fliers and

adept at fishing.

Have you seen any locally? I may head northeast to the Kavartha Lakes to see some.

Ron Goodridge and wife Lynda have monitored ospreys in Greater Fort Erie these past years.

Earl Plato is a Fort Erie resident, historian and nature lover.



An osprey at Kavartha Lakes.

Library offers a variety of children's books that encourage kindness toward others

Recently, Goodreads published a list of children's books that encourage kindness toward others, and the Fort Erie Public Library collection includes seven of those titles, with the rest on order.

If you read to or with children, and hope to spark a discussion about how to treat other people, or to increase the level of civility in our lives, you may want to borrow some of these titles.

Most of us are familiar with Dr. Seuss, and his *Horton Hears a Who* is about an elephant who goes to great lengths to help the tiny, helpless Whos, even when he is bullied for his

efforts.

The library has Horton on DVD and in audiobook format. *Enemy Pie* by Derek Munson is about a boy whose father helps him turn an enemy into a friend through patience, persistence and—of course—pie. Trudy Ludwig's *The Invisible Boy* is a reminder to us all to pay attention not just to the noisy attention getters, but also to the quiet people in our lives.

Three Questions by Jon Muth is based on writings by Leo Tolstoy. Best used with older children, this beautifully illustrated story cautions us to be mindful about our decisions and priorities.



Fort Erie Library

The Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña follows a young boy doing errands with his grandmother, whose responses to his questions show empathy towards others. Throughout the book, we are reminded that everyone we encounter has skills and a story. Market Street is the 2016 winner of both the Newbery Medal for out-

standing achievement in children's literature and the Caldecott Medal for children's picture books in the U.S. Jacqueline Woodson's beautifully illustrated *Each Kindness* is a realistic look at how middle grade school children often deal with a newcomer in their midst, and it can be an excellent conversation starter. Eleanor Estes' *The Hundred Dresses* is a classic story, with the same theme as *Each Kindness*, and both are in the library collection. If any of these titles aren't on the shelves in the branch you visit, you can place a hold at www.fepi.ca.

Do you know any young

people, ages five to 15, who are "drama queens" (or kings), who love to tell stories, exaggerate, and act out their day for you?

We have just the program for them, and it is free. On Monday, Aug. 8 at 7 p.m., kids should bring their imagination and a sense of silliness to the Centennial branch, where they can experiment with props, sound effects, and storytelling while playing drama games. Call any branch to register.

Movies during the first week in August are *I Saw the Light*, the Hank Williams story starring Tom Hiddleston as the

famous country-western singer, and *Mean Girls* with Lindsay Loban and Amanda Seyfried. Visit our web site, or call any branch for days, times and locations.

A reminder that all branches of the Fort Erie Public Library will be closed on Monday, Aug. 1 for the Civic Holiday. Browse our collection and place holds on the web site, where you can also access music, books and movies—available from Freegal, Overdrive and Hoopla on www.fepi.ca.

Amy Roebuck is the community services coordinator at the Fort Erie Public Library.

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Central Avenue Bridge slides into home base

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

An innovative technique was used to slide the newly constructed Central Avenue Bridge into place last week.

Jason Marr, Niagara Region's senior transportation project engineer, said Fort Erie's iconic bridge "provides a critical link from the east to the west" of the town, which is why staff chose to use a rapid bridge technique to reconstruct the new bridge.

The technique, which has rarely been done before in Niagara, helps to minimize traffic disruption.

"The idea is that we build the new bridge adjacent to the old structure on temporary supports and then over a short duration of closure, about four weeks, the bridge gets jacked into place," he said.

"The horizontal force that's required to move it is about 85,000 pounds or about 40 tonnes. The new bridge is sitting on a roller system, and through hydraulic jacks, which are hooked up and synced together, the bridge is rolled into place."



Last Thursday the replacement of the Central Avenue Bridge in Fort Erie began its 'slide' into place. The new bridge is replacing the existing bridge that stood for more than 65 years. The slide began early Thursday and was expected to take about six hours to complete. A public viewing area was created at the western limits of the project on Lewis Street for those interested in watching the slide take place.

CONTINUED > PAGE 9

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Regional councillor: Bridge is 'good news for Fort Erie'

CONTINUED FROM > PAGE 8

The other option would have been to close the Central Avenue Bridge for 12 to 18 months to allow time for the demolition of the old structure and a new one to be built in its place.

Originally built in 1953, the bridge carries traffic over the CN Rail International rail corridor and Lewis Street. It's also the only route available that would be suitable for heavy trucks, fire trucks, and full-size buses to reach downtown Bridgeburg.

"We chose the rapid bridge technique because there wasn't a viable detour route. Because the International Railway Bridge on the Parkway and the bridge on Thompson Road have low clearances, trucks can't

fit through them," Marr said.

A small crowd of curious residents gathered at the west limits of the project site on Lewis Street last Thursday morning to watch.

Marr said Region staff wanted to invite the public to watch the slide take "because it is unique to the region."

"The Region has never completed a rapid bridge replacement before but this replacement has been around since the early 1970s. It's becoming a popular choice because of the quick turnover and it reduces the impact on traffic and pedestrians."

Marr said the bridge will have one lane re-opened to traffic on Aug. 5.

"The work on the project is scheduled to be completed

at the end of September," he said.

Bill Snow, Rankin Construction's senior vice president, said the bridge started its slide into place at 8:30 a.m. "It's been an exciting job because it's not something that happens every day."

He said Rankin Construction is working with experienced engineering companies that are familiar with the rapid bridge technique.

Fort Erie's Regional councillor Sandy Annunziata said creativity was needed to "keep the bridge open for as long as possible."

"(This rapid bridge technique) has saved business owners and pedestrians from a lot of angst and anxiety" that would have resulted from closing the bridge for a

year or longer to build a new one.

However, according to a report Niagara Region councillors received on July 12, the bridge replacement will cost about \$14.5 million instead of \$10 million.

The new total is about \$16.79 million, Annunziata said. The Region's portion increased by \$1.5 million to \$15.34 million and the Town of Fort Erie will pay \$1.45 million, up from \$650,000. He said the project was expected to be completed several months sooner than the end of September, but there were unexpected delays in the project.

"We proved that number because of delays relating to utilities and extensive soil

contamination that wasn't originally identified," Annunziata said.

"We wanted to make sure the project was finished so we made the decision to approve the extra funding."

The next steps, he said, will be to have staff "go back to the consultants and partners that have submitted the extra costs" and "investigate who should be responsible for them."

On a positive note, Annunziata said the new bridge is "good news for Fort Erie."

"It's an important piece of infrastructure," he said, adding that the business owners and residents in downtown Bridgeburg will benefit from. When it is complete, the new bridge will be 115 metres in length and will have two lanes of traffic, two dedicated bicycle lanes with 1.5-metre pedestrian sidewalks in each direction. The new structure will incorporate parts of the existing Central Avenue Bridge as a heritage feature.

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Health Corner

Protect your child's teeth with Sealants

Here are the most frequently asked questions regarding Sealants

What are dental sealants?

□ Dental Sealants are thin plastic coatings that are put onto the chewing surfaces of the back teeth.

□ Sealants are painted on the top of the back teeth and hardened to form a shield over the tooth

Why should my child get sealants?

□ As the back teeth grow, pits and grooves form on the top of the teeth. Food and germs get caught in the grooves and cause the teeth to get cavities

□ Brushing teeth does not remove all the food and germs stuck in the grooves

□ Dental sealants fill in the grooves and help the teeth stay clean

When should my child get sealants?

□ When your child starts to get



Dr. John Inigo

their first molars (back teeth) at about the age of 6 or 7. Apply them again around the age of 11 to the second molars when they come in

Does it hurt to have sealants put on teeth?

□ No. Getting sealants is painless. No drilling or shots are used. Sealants take about five minutes per tooth. As soon as they dry, normal activities are fine.

How long will sealants last?

□ Sealants can last up to 5-10 years or longer if teeth are properly cared for.

How do dental sealants prevent cavities?

□ Dental sealants fill the pits and grooves on the teeth.

Teeth are easier to keep clean because food is brushed away easier with a toothbrush.

How much do sealants cost?

□ Usually a sealant costs less than filling a tooth that has a cavity. Most insurance companies cover sealants

Is brushing still important when teeth have sealants on them?

□ Yes. Brush and floss every day! You still have to work on keeping your teeth and gums clean and healthy.

So there you go. Ask your dentist for sealants to prevent your child's teeth.

Dr. John Inigo is a practicing general dentist in Fort Erie and Ridgeway, Ontario. He can be reached at Inigo Bertie Dentistry: 905.871.2903 or Inigo Ridgeway Dentistry: 905.894.5555. For further information and discussion, please visit his office at www.inigodentistry.com.

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Beware of the beach

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Postmedia Network

SUMMER HEALTH AND SAFETY TIPS

It's Brian Grant's business to keep a close eye on local water conditions.

After all, posts deeming swimming unsafe in Lake Erie have potential to reduce his number of customers looking for fun on Lake Erie that day.

For that reason, Grant, the owner of a Wainfleet water sports equipment rental company, is constantly checking the Niagara Region public health website that regularly updates the status of area beaches.

"I'm at their mercy," he says with a laugh, adding he also closely monitors wind direction and follows marine charts to ensure the safety of his clientele.

The owner of 905 Rentals says the No. 1 question he gets from out-of-town customers looking to enjoy time at the lake is about water conditions.

People often say they've heard about algae issues in the water and ask about the risks of taking a dip, Grant says.

"They want to know if it's safe to swim here."

"I have to tell them it changes every day," he says, and that postings could change from morning to afternoon.

"If it's posted (unsafe) with a lot of seaweed, I will call people and recommend they don't come in. I will leave it up to them if they still wish

to come. For a lot of people if it's the only day they've got off, they come anyway."

"The other day there was 20 feet of seaweed on the beach and I still had Sea-Doo rentals going out all day."

But it all depends on the crowd.

Earlier this week, the amount of algae that washed up on the beach scared business away.

"There was no way people were going to come down," Grant says, adding the beach was bare as the algae sat on the shore and baked.

When it comes to local beachgoers, Grant believes they're less hesitant to head into the deep regardless of public health's warning.

"Local people pretty much

don't care," he says. "If it's posted and there's no seaweed floating on the shoreline, people have no regard for it whatsoever."

Grant is one of those people.

Whether it's posted or not, he takes a daily plunge — often with friends by his side.

"I'm a diehard. I love the beach... If I don't go for a swim every day, I have a

nervous breakdown," he quips.

But that daring attitude can come with consequences.

Last year, one of Grant's friends got sick with E. coli after one of their regular group swims.

Bjorn Christensen, public health's director of environmental health, says the postings are in place and updated daily for a reason.

Swimming in contaminated water could mean ear and eye infections or, for those people who unintentionally consume the tainted liquid, could mean intestinal illness.

"It's important that we monitor the beaches pretty closely to provide information to the public, whether they should go into the water or not," he says. "Nobody's closing any beaches, but

it advises them the water quality is not acceptable for swimming. Hopefully the general public heeds those warnings."

Christensen urged beachgoers to check www.niagararegion.ca/living/water/beaches before heading to the sandy shores. Public health tests 26 Niagara beaches.

CONTINUED > PAGE 11



ALLAN BERNHEIM/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

As the owner of a watersport rental business on Lake Erie, Brian Grant keeps close tabs on water quality testing done by Niagara Region. Beachgoers should do the same.



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Make an informed decision about which beach to visit

CONTINUED FROM > PAGE 10

The spot they were hoping to visit may be posted unsafe, but the website may also indicate another nearby option where the water has passed testing, he says.

"It gives them the ability to make an informed decision about where they want to go to enjoy a nice afternoon."

Water quality is constantly changing and is impacted by many factors, which makes frequent testing for E. coli values key, Christensen says.

That can include area geese, duck and other fowl populations, heavy rainfall, which can cause runoff into the lakes, air temperature and high winds, which can create wave action that can "resuspend bacterial that may be in the sand sediment," he says.

Geography also comes into play, with variations of land

causing water to be more stagnant in some areas.

"There are so many factors that come into play. That's why some of the beaches we know are very heavily used are sampled on a seven-day-a-week basis so that we can provide accurate and timely information to the public."

Due in part to the extremely dry weather Niagara has seen so far this summer, there have been fewer postings labelling beaches as unsafe to swim, Christensen says.

"We haven't had runoff that may cause an infiltration of contaminants into some of our beaches — so that's a plus," he says.

But it's still early in the season.

As water temperatures continue to rise, bacterial action has potential to increase.

When it does, public health will be there to warn beachgo-

ers and Christensen is hopeful they will listen.

Grant says it would be useful for public health to find other ways to reach out to tourists, who often don't know where to look for beach postings.

They rent waterfront cottages and go out in the water in front of their rentals without ever seeing the posted signs on public beach areas, he says.

Because of the extreme temperatures Niagara has seen so far this summer and the mild winter that just passed, Grant believes there are many postings on the way.

The Lake Erie algae bloom didn't become a topic of discussion until mid-August last year, but he suspects it's well on its way in July.

"It's way more advanced this year than last."

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DRUNK & DRUGGED DRIVING PREVENTION

One of the most important discussions parents can have with their children is a discussion about alcohol. Parents are often wary of such a discussion, fearing if they come on too strongly when discussing the dangers of alcohol that their children might be too curious about alcohol to avoid it.

As difficult a discussion as it can be, parents must have an open dialogue with their kids about alcohol, and the sooner the better.

The Century Council, a not-for-profit organization devoted to fighting drunk driving and underage drinking, notes that 39 percent of eighth graders, 58 percent of tenth graders, and 72 percent of twelfth graders have reported trying alcohol at least once. To

parents, such figures only highlight the importance of talking to kids about the dangers of alcohol, and why it's best to avoid alcohol until it's legal to drink it. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism offers the following tips to parents who are ready to discuss alcohol with their child.

Make it a conversation. Adults don't like to be lectured to

Make sure your Teen Drivers are Safe This Holiday Weekend

TALKING TO KIDS ABOUT ALCOHOL

Parents can point certain facts and some fiction when discussing alcohol with their children.

and neither do kids, especially

teenagers. When discussing alcohol with a child, parents should make it a conversation and avoid lecturing. Kids will be more comfortable during a conversation and are more likely to open up if they are comfortable.

Talk to kids about their views on alcohol. The aforementioned statistics indicate that kids, even those who have never tried alcohol, are likely aware of it. Ask kids what they know about alcohol and how they feel about drinking and why they think kids drink before they're legally allowed to do so. Listen closely, and be careful not to interrupt. Doing so will help kids recognize that their parents value and respect their opinions.

Share some facts about alcohol. Misinformation reigns with respect to alcohol, and adults and children alike are often prone to believing certain myths. However, when discussing alcohol with kids, parents should share some facts to help dispel some of the more common misconceptions about alcohol, including:

• Beer and wine is just as dangerous as hard liquor. A 12-ounce beer and a 5-ounce glass of wine has the same amount of alcohol as a 1.5-ounce shot of liquor.

Kids might feel they will be fine if they just consume beer and not hard liquor, but beer is no less safe than liquor, especially when consumed in mass quantities.

• It takes hours for a single drink to leave a person's system. Cousine "buzzes" like a cold shower or a cup of coffee do not force alcohol out of the body. On average, it takes

2 to 3 hours for a single drink to exit a person's system. • Alcoholism isn't just for adults. Kids often feel alcoholism can only develop in adults. However, kids can develop serious alcohol problems as well, and the earlier a person starts drinking alcohol the more likely he or she is to develop such a problem.

Discuss false portrayals of alcohol consumption. Many kids start drinking alcohol because they feel it's "cool" to do so.

Parents can dispel this popular myth by pointing out the



falsehoods about alcohol promoted on television, in the movies and in advertisements. When watching a movie or television show with kids where drinking is portrayed, point out certain falsehoods that are commonly portrayed. For example, explain to kids that characters in the movies or on television are often portrayed as having a great time while drinking, when in reality alcohol often elicits feelings of sadness or anger.

Explain the long-term effects of drinking alcohol while young. Alcohol affects a young brain in different ways than it does an

adult one. In an effort to explain to kids why they should wait until they are legally allowed to drink, explain that drinking while the brain is still maturing can lead to long-lasting intellectual effects, which can impact how well kids are able to do in school and beyond. To learn more about talking to kids about alcohol, visit the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism at www.niaaa.nih.gov.

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Rockin' the stage at Safari Niagara



JOSEPH BORDO/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

Safari Niagara has continued the tradition of its Classic Albums Live concert lineup in the amphitheatre this summer. AC/DC's Back in Black, which was performed Saturday, was the second show featured in the series. Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon, planned for Aug. 13, is the final event of the season. For more information visit www.safariniaagara.com.

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Golfing for Hats of Hope

MARILYN O'NEILL/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

The Queen of Clubs, a committee of women dedicated to raising money for various community projects, hosted the first of two Hat of Hope Golf Tournaments June 11 at the Fort Erie Golf Club. Participants including the women pictured in this photo were encouraged to dress in costume for the event. The tournament raised about \$5,000 and the money will be used to purchase hats that will be distributed to cancer patients at the Walker Family Cancer Centre in St. Catharines. Queen of Clubs members wish to thank everyone that participated in the event last month and they wanted to remind everyone a second tournament will be held at the Fort Erie Golf Club of Friday, Aug. 19. For more information call the golf club at 905-991-8883.



John Denver tribute

JUNE CHIPP/SPECIAL TO THE FORT ERIE TIMES

The music of John Denver, with tribute artist Jimmy Gribben, backed by Gerie and the Koasters, is the next show in the Waterfront Concert Series lineup on July 31 beginning at 7 p.m. Hosted by the Friends of Crystal Beach, all of the outdoor concerts will be held at Waterfront Park, at 3875 Terrace Lane in Crystal Beach. Admission to the concert is free but donations are appreciated. Individuals are encouraged to bring their own blankets or lawn chairs to sit on. For more information visit www.friendsofcrystalbeach.org.



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Wes (clearly a sufferer dude) is the only speaker who has been invited all six years to Church on the Beach. He is the College and Young Adult Pastor at The Chapel at Conquest where he leads a weekly gathering of more than 600 young adults. He is a featured speaker each year at Kingdom Round and former co-writer of the wildly popular 100% Christian Rock Band, Harvest. Wes is a passionate evangelist and loves talking about the transforming power of the Gospel. He and his wife, Corinne, have two children, Dylan and Lindsay. You can learn more about Wes at www.wesaarum.com.



Worship Leader: Andrew Thompson

It's hard for Andrew to remember a time when knowing Jesus and singing weren't a part of his life. His Grandpa used to record the children singing songs of who Jesus was and what He had done. Andrew discovered at a young age that music was the best way for him to express his heart to Christ and to others. This passion shaped the direction of his life and led to his role as Assistant Pastor at Waterfront Community Church in Welland, ON and National Worship Leader for Promise Keepers Canada. He recently completed CD, The God Who Sees (featuring a collection of original songs written by Andrew, his wife Anita, and his son, Noah, along with 150+ other songwriters).

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Lack of open booths leading to hour-long waits: Bridge officials

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

It's been a terrible summer," he said.

Rienas said CBSA has lost bridge officials they have been resourcing, budgeting, staffing recruitment and contractual issues to deal with.

"They've got a whole host of issues as to why they're not able to give us the optimum number of lanes required," he said.

"When you look at the actual numbers, car volumes are actually down at the Peace Bridge and at the Niagara Falls bridges.

"What that tells us is that clearly Canadians are not going over as much, but the number of Canadians not going over the U.S. is not being made up

by Americans coming back, so while the tourism industry is saying that it's been a good year and you're getting American customers, there should be a lot more American customers coming over than there are."

He said the tourism industry in Niagara should worry about the long delays coming into Canada because visitors might be patient enough to deal with it once or twice, but then say, "forget it, I'm not sitting in line." Rienas said while the PBA is the landlord for customs between Fort Erie and Buffalo, they do not dictate how CBSA or U.S. Customs and Border Protection operate their booths.

"We try and cajole and request and beg and do all those things to keep lanes

open, but ultimately it's CBSA that makes the determination as to how many lanes are open (in Canada)," he said.

"We've been trying to put some pressure on them to do better, but this year has not been good compared to what we had last year."

CBSA spokeswoman Nancy Thomson said from March 20 to July 10, the Peace Bridge travellers stream met the best of both worlds, with 86.1 per cent of the time, the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge 91.6 per cent of the time and the Rainbow Bridge 92.3 per cent of the time.

The established service standards are 10 minutes from Monday to Thursday and 20 minutes from Friday to Sunday and holidays.

"The CBSA works with local stakeholders to monitor traffic patterns during high-volume periods," she said.

"Delays are sometimes unavoidable when traffic surges are encountered, enforcement actions occur, and higher than normal traffic volumes come into play."

Thomson said there may be a variety of factors that contribute to how many lanes are open at any given time.

"Despite our best efforts to keep traffic delays to a minimum, delays may occur due to variables that are out of our control," she said.

"The CBSA recognizes the importance of border wait times to the Canadian trade and tourism interests. We make every effort to forecast traffic patterns and volumes, and adjust staffing levels during peak travel periods to minimize processing times and unnecessary delays at our border crossings."

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Sunday, August 7 at 7:00 pm
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Waterfront Park, 3875 Terrace Lane, Crystal Beach.
Presented by Friends of Crystal Beach. Free admission. www.fcob.net

Zucchini in season at Bridgeburg Farmers Market

The simple zucchini came to north America in the 1920's from Italy, and means squash in Italian.

Lots of things with an "ini" on the end come from Italy. Zucchini are firm summer squash that can be eaten raw and cooked in about 50 million different ways.

It's higher in potassium than a banana and a six inch zucchini has about 30 calories, so stuff your face.

Growing these green beauties is beyond simple.

The dark skinned ones are best due to the extra nutritional value, but I like the yellow ones as well.

They look nice on the plate mixed together. So, regarding



At the Market

the growing thing. These unsuspecting bushes can produce buckets of them if well watered and have lots of sun. One story I was told by my partner's boss was about the one year he planted a few too many plants.

He was inundated with them. He was giving them away to everyone that made eye contact. I think he even

resorted to dropping baskets off at his neighbours houses, ringing the doorbell and running away. Forcing the poor neighbour to take those zucchinis in like stray kittens.

Elsie's at the Bridgeburg Rustic Farmers Market has zucchini relish that will knock your socks off. Try some chocolate zucchini loaf too. Zucchini are multi purpose.

I used to eat this dish when I was young and short on funds (see box).

The Bridgeburg Rustic Farmers Market runs Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Jarvis Street.

Chrystal Haverstock is the Bridgeburg Rustic Farmers Market coordinator.

ZUCCHINI STEW

• 16-8" zucchini cut in half length ways and sliced in half moons

• 1/2 lb mushrooms cut in quarters

• 1 carrot cut just like the zucchini

• 1 stalk celery sliced diagonally

• 1-2 C cauliflower florets

• 1 large tomato diced

• 1-2 cloves garlic minced

• salt and pepper to taste

• 1 tsp dried basil

• 1 tbs margarine or butter

• 1/2 C shredded mozzarella

• Melt butter in large pot on medium heat.

• Sauté garlic slightly, add all the veggies and spices and stir well. Cover and simmer until veggies are tender.

• Remove from heat. Adjust seasonings.

• Drop in cheese and cover until cheese has just melted.

Serve immediately over rice. The veggies take the same amount of time to cook as regular white or basmati rice. This recipe makes about three to four servings.

Driving



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RESEARCH

R.I.D.E. program leads to two arrests

Niagara Regional Police stopped about 300 cars and made two arrests during its R.I.D.E. Program Saturday night.

Within the first two hours, one driver from Niagara Falls and one from Thorold were arrested

for having over the legal limit of alcohol (.80 mgs) in their system while operating a motor vehicle. A third driver had their license suspended for three days after receiving a "warn" for having more than .50 mgs of alcohol in their system.

Police also removed a vehicle from the road it deemed unfit to be operated.

Several fines were doled out in contravention of the Highway Traffic Act and Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act.

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Three years in jail for child luring

ALISON LANGLEY
POSTMEDIA NETWORK

A piano teacher sentenced to three years behind bars for arranging to meet an eight-year-old girl at a Niagara Falls hotel for sex maintains he is innocent and says the criminal justice system has treated him poorly.

"He has accepted no accountability or responsibility for his actions," Judge Robert Nightingale said Thursday in Superior Court of Justice in Welland at the sentencing hearing of Derek Williamson.

The judge said the defendant continues to profess his innocence and went so far as to accuse the police of fab-

ricating reports and claiming he was "misinterpreted" when he testified at his trial.

The 51-year-old freelance music teacher and volunteer with an adult literacy program in Fort Erie was convicted earlier this year of five sex-related offences including Internet luring.

In a pre-sentence report, Williamson denied being sexually attracted to children, but the judge noted he hasn't completed any psychiatric testing to determine any sexual deviances.

Defence counsel Vikram Singh had sought a sentence of 90 days in jail to be served on weekends.

Assistant Crown attorney Allison Dellandra had argued

a sentence in the range of four to five years was more appropriate since Williamson has not accepted responsibility for his actions.

The Crystal Beach resident submitted to court what he thought would be a just sentence for someone who was wrongly convicted. He proposed volunteering at Niagara Detention Centre by offering a musical workshop to inmates.

The judge dismissed his suggestion and sentenced Williamson to 36 months in jail. He was given credit for the four months he spent in pretrial custody as well as the three years he spent under strict bail conditions which essentially has had

him under house arrest so will serve another two years behind bars.

Williamson had testified he went on a website dedicated to child sex out of curiosity and was repulsed by the contents of the site even though the evidence indicated he visited the site on numerous occasions.

Through a chat room on the website, court heard earlier, Williamson began a conversation with someone he thought was a Toronto-area woman with an eight-year-old daughter.

The woman was actually a police officer with the Toronto Police Service.

In February 2013, he sent the undercover police

officer a photograph of his erect penis and engaged in a 45-minute text chat in which he described how he wanted to be "active" with a young girl.

When the police officer, this time posing as the teenager, was talking with him on the computer, he also sent her the picture of his penis.

A date was arranged for Williamson to meet with the mother and daughter at a Niagara Falls hotel.

Shortly before their scheduled meeting, he described to the officer in graphic language what he intended to do with the child.

On Feb. 28, 2013, Williamson was arrested as he got out of his car in the parking

lot of the hotel. Police found hand cream and a Viagra pill in his vehicle.

The judge said the offences were serious crimes even though there was no actual victim.

"This is not a victimless crime," Nightingale said.

Williamson was also placed on probation for three years and banned from using the Internet and he cannot go anywhere that children may be such as public parks. He can have no contact with anyone under 16 and his name will be on the national Sex Offender Registry for life.

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AUGUST CALENDAR 2016

Friday, July 29

Alan Jackson Tribute - 7:30pm

Saturday, August 6

Golf Tournament 8:30 tee off

Saturday, August 20 -

All the King's Men
Entertainment - 8pm -
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A community tradition

SARAH FERDUSON / FORT ERIE TIMES

Meshaeh Samuels, eight, and his brother Jessiah Samuels, four, check out a Mexican redneck tarantula at the Fort Erie Friendship Festival.



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Pastors Henry and Sonya Kenney and Worship Band, New Credit Christian Fellowship, of the Mississauga area of the New Credit First Nation

Pressing into His Presence

Annual All Nations Fellowship Campmeeting Revival

Tuesday, July 28th at 7pm Service - Don and Gladys Wonderly
Friday, July 29th at 7pm Service - Don and Gladys Wonderly
Saturday, July 30th at 5pm BBQ and 7pm Service - Pastors Kenney and Sonya
Sault, and Worship Band
Sunday, July 31st at 11am Service - Don and Gladys Wonderly



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE (PIC) PROSPECT POINT ROAD SOUTH STORM DRAINAGE PROJECT

The Town of Fort Erie has initiated detailed design for the Prospect Point Road South Storm Drainage Project. The project design includes capturing of the storm runoff on the road surface through road resurfacing and conveying major and minor stormwater flows to the south limit of the Prospect Point Road South outletting at Lake Erie. Construction work is tentatively scheduled to commence September, 2016.

Public consultation on the proposed design and getting feedback is an important part of the project. As part of the public consultation for this project, a formal Public Information Centre (PIC) is being planned to provide interested parties with an opportunity to review the design and construction plans. This is a pre-approved Schedule A+ Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) project. Those attending the PIC will have an opportunity to meet with the Project Team and discuss issues related to the project, including existing conditions and environmental considerations. The PIC will take place on:

Tuesday, August 02, 2016

5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

at the

Crystal Ridge Branch Public Library

(Ground Floor Meeting Room)

89 Ridge Road South, Ridgeway, Fort Erie,

Tel.: 905-894-1281

If you are unable to attend the PIC but have comments or questions regarding the project please contact the following:

George Stojanovic, P.Eng.
Manager, Engineering Division

The Corporation of the
Town of Fort Erie

1 Municipal Centre Drive
Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6

E-Mail: gstojanovic@forterie.ca
P: 1-905-871-1600, Ext. 2402

Monirul Islam, P.Eng.
Senior Project Manager,

The Corporation of the
Town of Fort Erie

1 Municipal Centre Drive
Fort Erie, ON, L2A 2S6

E-Mail: Mislam@forterie.ca
P: 1-905-871-1600 Ext. 2413

Note: If you require accommodations to participate in this event, please contact Monirul Islam.

Advance requests are encouraged to enable us to meet your needs.

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will be part of the public record.

TAX NOTICE



The first installment for the
**2016 Final Taxes for Commercial,
Industrial & Multi-Residential
Properties is DUE FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2016**

Online Credit Card payments are now available.

Monthly payment plans by
pre-authorized bank withdrawal are also
available for accounts with past due taxes and
current year taxes.

All final 2016 Tax Bills were mailed on June 8, 2016

For more information

please refer to the back of your tax bill,
call 905-871-1600 or visit www.forterie.ca

School Crossing Guards Wanted

Weekly Hours: 7.5hrs - 11.25hrs

Hourly Rate: \$13.13



The Town of Fort Erie is currently accepting applications for temporary, part-time work as a School Crossing Guard for the period of **September 2016 to June 2017**.

Requirements:

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma or equivalent, or documented experience.
- Enhanced sensory acuity and concentration
- Ability to remain on your feet for long stretches at a time.
- Reliable and able to travel to an assigned crossing
- Willingness to work outdoors in what are sometimes adverse weather conditions.

Interested applicants are invited to send a resume to the Town of Fort Erie's Employment Services division (Competition # 17-2016) or email it to tmather@forterie.ca. For more information please visit www.forterie.ca or call 905-871-1600, ext. 2202.

**All applications must be submitted by 4 p.m. on
Thursday, August 4, 2016**

Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. The evaluation process may include a practical assessment. Personal information is collected under the *Municipal Act, 2001* to determine employment suitability. The Town of Fort Erie is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation is available to candidates upon request.

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CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Thunder Bay Storm Drainage (Phase 3 & 4)

Location: Bernard Ave from Evadere Ave to Thunder Bay Rd and Cook Ave from Riselley Ave to Thunder Bay Rd

Expected Start Date: August 02, 2016

Anticipated End Date: Late-November 2016

Potential Disruptions: Water Supply and Road Closures. Affected residents will be notified by the Contractor prior to disruption.

Project Description:

The Town of Fort Erie developed a Master Drainage Plan in 2007 for the Thunder Bay area due to significant overland flooding being experienced in the area. Based on the Master Drainage Plan, a multi-phased approach to address the flooding was developed. Phase 1 & 2 were completed in 2008 & 2009. Due to beach erosion being experienced at Bernard Beach, a modified outlet configuration for Phase 1 works was designed and constructed in 2015. To save on overall construction costs, Phase 3 & 4 will be a combination of two capital projects: Thunder Bay Road Storm Drainage/Bernard Avenue Outlet and Thunder Bay Storm Drainage - Cook Trunk. The current scope of work for this project includes the construction of a storm sewer on Bernard Avenue and Cook Avenue. The storm sewer will connect with the existing stubs on the Thunder Bay Road storm sewer. In addition, construction will include complete road restoration on Cook Avenue. Disturbed areas on Bernard Avenue will also receive a new hot mix asphalt this year.

Contact Person: Monirul Islam, P.Eng., Senior Project Manager, Tel.: 905-871-1600, ext. 2413 | Email: mislam@forterie.ca

Road Resurfacing - Surface Treatment 2016

Locations:

Michener Road (Point Abino to Holloway Bay Road)
Young Avenue (Burlleigh Road to Neva Road)
Neva Road (Thunder Bay Road to Evadere Avenue)
Evadere Avenue (Neva Road to Shirley Road)
Shirley Road (Thunder Bay Road to Bethune Avenue)
Poplar Avenue (Bernard Avenue to Neva Road)
Stonemill Road (Thunder Bay Road to Dominion Road)

Start Date: Underway

Anticipated End Date: Mid-August 2016

Potential Disruptions: Driveway access may be disrupted for short periods of time. Affected residents will be notified by the contractor prior to disruption.

Project Description:

- Pulverizing of existing road surface, grading and compaction of pulverized material. (completed)
- Placement of recycled asphalt material and double surface treatment application. (in progress)

Contact Person: George Stojanovic, P. Eng., Manager, Engineering Division, Tel.: 905-871-1600, ext. 2402 | Email: gstojanovic@forterie.ca

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TENDER FOR

STEVENSVILLE MEMORIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS

CONTRACT NO. PDS-16T-SMEM15

Work consists of excavation and grading, concrete and asphalt work, the supply and installation of a pavilion and site furniture, and site restoration, at Stevensville Memorial Park, located at 2508 Stevensville Road.

Sealed submissions addressed to the Town Clerk will be received by the Customer Service Unit (CSU) at 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario until

2:00 pm, local time on Monday August 15, 2016

All Town of Fort Erie formal competitive bid opportunities are posted on the Town's Bidding Landing Page www.bidding.com/forterie. Alternatively, tender documents may be obtained after 2:00 pm on **Friday July 29, 2016**, from the Planning and Development Services Department of The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie.

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie reserves the right to reject any or all tenders, and the lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Please direct any and all inquiries to Sara Fox, Purchasing and Finance Clerk, at sfox@forterie.ca.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Fun at the festival

SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Debra Drinkle brought her grandchildren Kaidyn Beute, seven, Kiarrah Beute, two, Kennzie Beute, one, and Karissa Beute, six, to the Fort Erie Friendship Festival Friday.



In this photo taken Friday afternoon, Simon Tsobanakis serves fajitas at the Fort Erie Friendship Festival.



Peyton Stonier, 12, of Welland, shows off his cool face painting at the Fort Erie Friendship Festival Friday.

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When tour not sold out, tickets also available at Departure and Parking Area. Restoration of the Lighthouse is ongoing - access may be limited at times.

For more information, contact the Facilities Management Department at 905-871-1600, ext. 2431, or visit the Town of Fort Erie website at www.forterie.on.ca

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Entrepreneur highlights key to a successful business

SARAH FERGUSON
Fort Erie Times

Dan Barrett is no stranger to business.

The Fort Erie resident has 25 years of experience in working as a consultant for a number of franchises including Burger King, Wendy's, Wegmans as well as the Buffalo Bills, the Buffalo Sabres and other companies across North America.

His job as a consultant consisted of preparing mystery shopper reports to evaluate customer service, operations and advertising in business.

The goal of the reports, Barrett said, was to provide constructive and practical advice to improve customer service, staff productivity and operations.

"I started seeing patterns with what works for companies so I started

writing them down."

Barrett decided he wanted to share what he had learned over the course of the years, so when he had enough of his own personal stories to fill a book, he wrote and self-published *The 32 Second Entrepreneur: Practical Concise Advice for Opening and Operating a Successful Business*, a collection of more than 100 stories that offer advice on how to open and run a successful business.

He also recently launched a second version of his book, *The 32 Second Entrepreneur: Practical, Concise Advice for Operating a Successful Business*, to serve as "practical reminders" for experienced business owners "to refresh their business skills."

He said his books are different from other books about business because

each story "takes an average of 32 seconds to read."

"I've read many business books that are 200 to 300 pages long but they may have two to three pages of hard facts," Barrett said.

"I wanted to create something that is easy to read and practical."

His book focuses on great customer service.

When considering opening a business, Barrett said it's important for an entrepreneur to develop a plan.

"When starting a new business, you have to make sure to do the proper homework and preparation," he said.

"Over the years, I've seen many people spending so much money to start a business but I could tell it wouldn't survive because the business was in a bad location or there was too much competition."

Barrett said the big-

gest mistake new business owners make is thinking about how much money a business can make instead of thinking about "the needs of the community."

"I think a business has to improve lives in some way, and there has to be a need for the product you're selling."

Barrett's interest in business began when he was a child.

"My dad was a milkman and when I was younger, I would go with him to convenience stores, grocery stores, and restaurants and everyone would speak with him. That's what I like about business; the people."

For more information about Barrett's book or to purchase a copy send him an e-mail to danbarrett32@gmail.com or visit www.danbarrett.ca.

saferguson@postmedia.com



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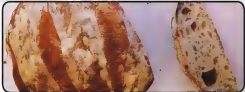


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- Alternatives
- Contact and negotiate lower payments with creditors.
 - Credit counselling can help in many ways including budgeting and creditor negotiations.
 - Debt consolidation loan can combine debts and lower payments.
 - Consumer proposal is a formal procedure under the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act whereby you can reduce debts, extend the time to pay off debts or both.



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Police urge Pokemon Go players to keep safety in mind when playing

MARYANNE FIRTH
Postmedia Network

It's a bandwagon — filled with pocket monsters — that Terry Fowler was happy to jump on.

The owner of Fight Fit in St. Catharines is embracing the Pokemon Go craze that has taken the world by storm and is hoping it will yield him clients along the way.

Fowler has been dropping digital lures daily at his James Street boxing fitness gym, a practice that has drawn some new faces through the doors.

Lures are used to attract Pokemon, or pocket monsters, to a certain area in the location-based augmented reality game. Players use a phone's GPS to track the movement of players as they hunt for rare finds.

Players, known as trainers, physically wander in search of the creatures, using the camera on their phone to spot them in the wild.

As the goal of the mobile game is to "catch 'em all," with hundreds of monsters up for grabs, having a lure in place is enticing for trainers, who

show up ready to collect.

When the world's first went mad for Pokemon Go earlier this month, Fowler knew there was an opportunity to use the game to have some fun and stir up some new business.

In addition to placing the lures, which have so far cost him a whopping \$15, the real-life trainer has been offering one complimentary workout session to each person who comes into the business, snaps a photo of a monster inside and posts it on the Fight Fit Facebook page.

"It's been pretty good," Fowler said, adding it helps that there is a Pokestop, where players visit to collect

tools in the game needed to capture and battle their monsters, right next door to the gym.

He's received plenty of positive feedback about his Pokemon promotions, including a sign put out in front of the business Friday that read: What's your Pikachu? Pikachu, a small yellow rodent creature, is perhaps the most well known of the Pokemon from the original '90s franchise.

While Fowler serves a broad demographic at the gym, it's a way for him to appeal to the younger generation and to welcome them in for a peek — or two.

In the last week it has resulted in some positive social media feedback from visitors.

"That kind of advertising, word of mouth advertising, I can't buy," Fowler said, calling his \$15 purchase well worth the investment.

"I think it's a wonderful opportunity for businesses to jump on the bandwagon," he said, adding it's a fad that may not last long, so it's important to act fast.

"Even if it gets me one member it's better than one member I didn't have before."

Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce board chair Ian Kowalchuk called the Pokemon craze a "pull strategy," that gives opportunity to engage new consumers in a different and unique way.

Both businesses and the

public continue to move away from more traditional forms of advertising, making way for new platforms such as mobile games, he said, adding there's a need to be nimble to adapt to the changing landscape.

"Depending on your target market or customer, Pokemon Go, may or may not fit into that strategy, but it is another way to target a specific audience you are trying to attract if your business is looking to do so."

The trend hasn't been the draw Niagara Falls History Museum has hoped.

The Ferry Street building is designated a Pokemon gym in the game, where trainers go to battle their monsters against each other.

CONTINUED > PAGE 39

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BARBARA PEDERSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

Antionietta Petrella, the Fort Erie Race Track's manager of marketing and media relations lists the order of Prince of Wales Stakes participants. The draw was held Friday and the race was held Tuesday night at the racetrack.



Retired jockey Richard Grubb, a Prince of Wales Stakes winner, and the only rider to ever win seven races on an eight-race card in one day at Woodbine, is pictured here with Fort Erie Race Track racing secretary Jackie Eder. Grubb was this year's draw master who helped select the positions for the Prince of Wales Stakes. The results from Tuesday's race were not available before the Fort Erie Times press deadline. Visit www.forterietimes.ca for the full story on the Prince of Wales Stakes results.

Rio Vista Retirees results

The Rio Vista Retirees are pleased that so far this season because they have yet to cancel any of their weekly golf competitions.

Summer this year has been pretty hot but as they say beginners can't be choosers.

Again an excellent turn-out of 55 seniors were ready and eager to play the sport they love. Last Wednesday morning was no exception. The event this time was the four men scramble.

The 50/50 draw was won by Simon Holierhoek.



Rio Vista Retirees

The hidden hole was the par five first and three birdies were recorded.

Closest to the pin on seven went to Dave Spence who got within two feet of the pin.

Another 21 players managed to get their drives onto the green. For shots of the day it was Bruce Sta-

pleton scoring an eagle on the par four fifth and Neil McKinnon managed two chip-in birdies.

First place went to the team of Gary Romanyk, John Marshall, Greg Thomas and Waldo Robley. Second were Scott Burridge, Bob Woehl and Garth Barker. Third place went to Robin Jones, Dave Spence, Cliff Wilson and Clive Acaster.

This week featured the Bingo-Bango-Bongo event. Wednesday's results were not available before the Fort Erie Times press deadline.

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St. George students win chance to chat with South Sudan advocate

Speaking to Salva Dut was a once-in-a-life-time opportunity for the Grade 6 class at St. George Catholic Elementary School in Crystal Beach last month.

The class won third place in the Iron Giraffe Challenge, and were given the chance to chat with Dut via Skype for about a half an hour.

Water For South Sudan, a non-profit organization that was created by Dut, issued the challenge to schoolchildren around the world to help the children of South Sudan.

The organization, based in Rochester, N.Y., helps drill wells in South Sudan so the people who live there can have access to clean and safe drinking water.

The money the St. George students collected was put toward the purchase of a drilling rig,

also known as an Iron Giraffe, which costs about \$500,000.

Prior to the meeting, Grade 6 teacher Tara Lamorie said the students organized a time line of Dut's history and used it to create a list of questions for Dut about his experience in America, life in Sudan, and the importance of having access to safe drinking water.

The class first learned about Dut and they were moved to help the children living in Sudan when they read about him in a book, *A Long Walk to Water*, written by Linda Sue Park.

Dut was a young boy that lived in Sudan in 1985 during a period of civil unrest.

He became one of thousands of children, mostly boys who became known as "The Lost Boys of Sudan," that fled through

war-torn desert to find safety.

He went to Ethiopia first, and then led 1,500 "Lost Boys" through the Sudan desert to a refugee camp in Kenya.

Dut came to live in the U.S. in 1996, and in 2003, he founded Water for South Sudan.

South Sudan, which received its independence in 2011 and is the world's newest country, has seen a significant amount of development in the last few years.

The students said they learned much of South Sudan's rural areas still lack basic infrastructure such as roads, utilities and basic sanitation.

Many of the country's wells are in rural areas where there is no electricity and people are unable to travel for half of the year due to the country's rainy season.



SARAH FERGUSON/FORT ERIE TIMES

The Grade 6 class at St. George Catholic Elementary School was thrilled to receive a once-in-a-lifetime chance to speak with Salva Dut, founder of the non-profit organization Water for South Sudan, before the end of the school year. The class raised \$1,000 for Water for South Sudan. The money the St. George students collected was put toward the purchase of a drilling rig, also known as an Iron Giraffe, which costs about \$500,000.

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BOB TYMCZYSZYN/POSTMEDIA NETWORK
Dozens of avid gamers were in the area of St. Catharines city hall recently playing the mobile Pokemon Go game. The intersection of James and Church streets ties in with the games play.

Poke-mania takes over Niagara

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 36

"Our staff are quite excited about it but we haven't seen a lot of foot traffic from other visitors," manager Clark Bernat said.

He chalks it up in part to the fact that Niagara Falls has an abundance of Pokéstops and gyms to keep players busy.

"I don't think there's any shortage of places to go in the community to find these things."

It also likely doesn't help that players don't need to enter the building to be within range to use the gym, he said.

When the game initially launched earlier this month, the museum began advertising itself as a battle zone,

touting that it also offers Wi-Fi and is looking for action to escape the summer heat.

Bernat has been in touch with other museums outside of Niagara that have seen more activity as a result.

"Some are real busy and some aren't and there seems to be no real rhyme or reason other than geographical location and what is in the surrounding environment."

He's unsure whether the museum will take extra steps to draw crowds like dropping lures during special event days.

Even if it were to draw people through the doors, it won't necessarily mean they partake in what the museum offers, he said.

"We want them to come and really enjoy the space.

That's something you fight with — the educational value versus using us as a space to come and catch Pokemon."

Niagara Regional Police put out their own Pokemon postings on social media last Thursday, reminding players that the game is no excuse to break the law.

The playful post urged people not to trespass or damage property, because it makes poor Pikachu sad.

It was prompted by an incident in Welland last week that may have been related to the game, though that has not been confirmed, Const. Phil Gavin said.

Police investigated a possible trespass, where a back fence at a residence had been opened and it looked

as though the home's soffit had been leaned on, he said. A neighbour had witnessed people nearby staring at their phones.

"Is it related? We can't say that 100 per cent, but what we can do is encourage people to not trespass, which I think is a big one on this. If you see one of those little characters and you want to run up to someone's house to get it, it falls into a trespassing situation."

The Pikachu post, as of last Friday morning, had reached more than 40,000 people on Facebook alone, having been shared 500 times and receiving more than 700 reactions. "This is getting about the same attention as a high-profile missing person's case,"

Gavin said, adding those are typically the posts that receive the most community engagement.

"But if this gets somebody thinking a little bit about safety and playing the game without trespassing, then we've done what we set out to do."

There are also safety concerns with people walking around with their phones in front of their faces, Gavin said, reminding people to remain alert while on foot and to not use the game while driving a car or riding a bike.

"We ask that people be aware of their surroundings, have fun but be safe. Play within the rules of the law."

mfrir@postmedia.com
Twitter: @mfrirStandard

POKEMON GO NIAGARA MEET-UP EVENT

What: A gathering of Pokemon Go players to interact with one another and catch pocket monsters.

When: Sunday, Aug. 7, beginning at 5 p.m.

Where: The Secret Garden at the bottom of Clifton Hill in Niagara Falls. If the garden is being used for any events, the gathering will be moved to the park across the street.

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We are presently seeking employees for PART-TIME positions for the upcoming fall / winter period. Training will start in August. Positions are available for cash, sales floor, warehouse etc.

These positions will normally be 12 -24 hours per week and candidates must be available for day time shifts, night shifts (until 9 pm), Saturdays & Sundays.

If you are interested in applying for a position, please drop a resume off at the customer service desk at Canadian Tire, Fort Erie ASAP.

Some positions may be temporary (until Christmas), while some may continue as permanent part-time into the New Year. Please state your availability time frame when handing in your resume. For example if you are interested in a short-term position until Christmas, please state this. If you are available into the Spring / Summer of 2017, please state this.

**NO PHONE CALLS REGARDING THESE POSITIONS PLEASE.
CANDIDATES SELECTED FOR AN INTERVIEW WILL BE CONTACTED.**

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Marking your milestones.

Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

Obituaries

Obituaries

DI DONATO, Antonietta - Antonietta passed away at the Greater Niagara General Hospital on July 20th, 2016 at the age of 64. Loving wife of over 40 years to Mario. Proud mother of two daughters Michelle (Judd) and Maria. Beloved sister of Anne (Loe) Bonaventura and Joan (the late Giovanni) Castelnovo. Sadly missed by her many nieces and nephews including Ashley (Tyler) Bonaventura and Enzo Castelnovo and her large extended family in Italy. Predeceased by her parents Enzo and Maria Castelnovo. Antonietta was a loving wife and mother who cherished her time with her family. She took her enjoyment of baking and cooking and turned it into a catering business that she ran for many years. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES**, 1105 Benner Ave. Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family received friends on Friday from 7:00 pm. Funeral Mass was celebrated on Saturday July 23rd at 10 am from St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church. Interment to follow in Greenwood Cemetery.

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Obituaries

Obituaries

Anniversaries

Anniversaries



BONUOMO, Francesco Paulo "Frank" - Born in Italy on August 10th, 1953 Frank passed away at St. Joseph's Hospital in Hamilton on July 21st, 2016 in his 63 year. Loving son of Benvenuto and Rosario Bonuomo of Fort Erie. Cherished brother of Phyllis (Art) Nelson, Nina, John and Ben Bonuomo. Sadly missed by his nephews and nieces Steven, Michael, Jennifer, Jonathan, Elias and Gabriella and great-nephews Preston and Dylan. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES** 1105 Benner Ave Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. The family received friends on Sunday July 24th. Funeral Mass was held at St. Michael's Church on Monday July 25th. Entombment to follow at Fairview Mausoleum in Niagara Falls, Ontario. If so desired, contributions in Frank's name to the Cancer Society, Diabetes Association or the Fort Erie SPCA would be appreciated.

www.bennerfuneralservices.com

KEITH, Patrick - It is with great sorrow, we announce the sudden passing of Patrick L. Keith, 62, Crystal Beach on Friday July 22, 2016 from a tragic accident. Patrick was born Nov 9, 1954 in Napanee, Ontario and resided in the Niagara Region for over 35 years. Patrick was a Chartered Professional Accountant, Certified Management Accountant and a recently retired Financial Advisor in Ridgeway, Ontario. He is survived and sadly missed by his wife and partner Trisha Mason, his son Justin Keith, daughters Holly (Richie) Mohammed and Tricia Keith, step son Matt Levasseur, father Fred and Kitty Keith, his brothers Lawrence & Mark Keith, grandchildren Jacda and Kymari many uncles, aunts, cousins, friends and clients. Patrick is predeceased by his mother, Barbara Keith (nee Smith), grandparents, Harold & Dorothy Keith and Lou & Edith Smith. **WILLIAMS FUNERAL SERVICES** 722 Ridge Rd. N. Ridgeway entrusted with arrangements. The family will receive friends on Saturday July 30th from 10:30 am until the time of Funeral Services in the Chapel at 11 o'clock. A reception and another opportunity to meet with the family will take place immediately after the service. If so desired, donations of unwrapped toys to be gifted to underprivileged children in Niagara at the funeral in lieu of flowers would be appreciated by the family.

Happy Anniversary



Isabel Przybylsz
Happy Anniversary to my wife.
You are my light, my sunshine.
You are my life.
Love you more everyday
and always,
John

June and Henry Schaeffer's 60th Wedding Anniversary



The family of June and Henry Schaeffer are hosting an Open House in honour of the couple's 60th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday July 31st from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Fort Erie Golf Club, 1150 Sunset Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario. Best wishes only.

60th
ANNIVERSARY

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Marking your milestones.

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In Memoriams

In Memoriams



BARKLEY, Evelyn -
 July 31, 1950 - April 13, 2016

*I don't need a special day
 to bring you to mind
 The days I do think of you
 are very hard to find
 Each morning when I wake
 I know that you are gone,
 And no one knows the heartache
 as I try to carry on.
 My heart still aches with sadness
 and secret tears still flow,
 What it meant to love you,
 no one will ever know.
 My thoughts are always with you,
 Your place no one can fill.
 In life I loved you dearly,
 In death I love you still.*

Happy birthday, Sweetheart.

Love,
 your husband Ed and the Barkley family
 Ken, Cindy, Blake, Holden, Kevin, Lisa,
 Chelsea, Ed Jr, Brooklyn and Cole. XO



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 a memory, the memory becomes a
 treasure.

In Memoriams

Remember Your
 Loved One!



Jack Walton -

May 22, 1923 - July 30, 2011

*Nothing can ever take away
 The love a heart holds dear.
 Fond memories linger every day
 Remembrance keeps him near.*

With all our love
 June Walton and family.

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WOW!

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WOW! \$113[†] biweekly

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\$43,990-
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WOW! \$191[†] biweekly

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STK # A3278A
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WOW!

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*All prices include taxes, plus HST & Licence. - Bi-weekly payments include all fees & taxes plus financing. © 2008 DAC. Years 2008 & 2009 based on 7.99% Years 2010 to 2012 based on 5.99%. Years 2013 to 2015 based on 6.49% Year 2009 based on 36 mth term, 2009 based on 48 mth term, years 2010 & 2011 based on 60 mth term, 2012 based on 72 mth term and 2013 to 2015 based on 84 mth term. ** Ex. 1 \$15,000 financed @ 5.99% over 60 mths. is a bi-weekly payment of \$88.11, # of payments 120, cost of borrowing is \$1653.86. Ex. 2 \$10,000 financed @ 6.49% over 84 mths. is a bi-weekly payment of \$88.44, # of payments 182, cost of borrowing is \$2455.46 Ex. 3 \$10,000 financed @ 7.99% over 48 mths. is a bi-weekly payment of \$112.48, # of payments 104, cost of borrowing is \$1088.61.



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